



# United Steelworkers of America

AFL-CIO-CLC

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**Leo W. Gerard**  
International President

June 7, 2002

Viet Dinh, Assistant Attorney General  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Room 4640  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Dinh:

On behalf of the United Steelworkers of America, AFL-CIO, I am writing to support the nominations of Terrence McVerry and David Cercone to judgeships in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania here in Pittsburgh. I urge you to provide each of them with a confirmation hearing at the first possible opportunity and to vote in favor of their appointments.

The task of the Judiciary Committee is a solemn one, and I believe its advice-and-consent role warrants the application of independent scrutiny and responsibility. In the cases of Messrs. McVerry and Cercone, I believe each meets the highest standards.

Terry McVerry is an outstanding candidate for the federal judiciary. His 33-year legal career has equipped him with a diverse set of talents and perspectives: prosecutor; private attorney; state legislator; state judge; and county solicitor.


Judge Dave Cercone has served as a state judge for 20 years of distinguished service. His career covers the gamut of civil, criminal, and administrative responsibilities.

Both gentlemen are universally regarded as persons of integrity and judicious demeanor, and each has a proven record of working equally on behalf of all segments of our community. As a union official, I am of course concerned that federal judges be able to administer justice fairly to persons and

Viet Dinh, Assistant Attorney General  
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organizations of all classes, races, and backgrounds, and I am confident that both Terry McVerry and Dave Cercone would apply the law in this manner. I again urge your support and thank you for considering the views of the Steelworkers Union.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leo W. Gerard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Leo" being the most prominent.

Leo W. Gerard  
International President

LWG/tw

cc: Hon. Patrick J. Leahy  
Hon. Orrin G. Hatch  
Hon. Arlen Specter  
Hon. Rick Santorum